



**State of Vermont**  
**Department of Vermont Health Access**  
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*Agency of Human Services*  
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August 30, 2016

Dear Pharmacy Owner/Manager,

Re: Vermont Medicaid Pharmacy Cost of Dispensing Survey

State Medicaid agencies are being directed by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to adopt fee-for service pharmacy payment policies designed to pay pharmacies for the actual acquisition cost of drugs plus a reasonable professional dispensing fee, based on the actual cost to the pharmacy of dispensing drugs to Medicaid members. Additional details can be found on the CMS Fact Sheet at this link:

<https://www.cms.gov/Newsroom/MediaReleaseDatabase/Fact-sheets/2016-Fact-sheets-items/2016-01-21.html>. A copy of the CMS Covered Outpatient Drugs Final Rule (CMS-2345FC) published on February 2, 2016 can be found on the Federal Register at this link: <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2016/02/01/2016-01274/medicaid-program-covered-outpatient-drugs>

This letter is to inform you that the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) will be performing a pharmacy cost of dispensing survey to analyze the cost of dispensing prescription medications to Vermont Medicaid members. To perform this survey Vermont has partnered with the New England States Consortium Systems Organization (NESCSO) and the accounting firm of Myers and Stauffer LC, a reputable firm with extensive experience in pharmacy costs and reimbursement.

Over the next few weeks, you will be receiving a pharmacy cost of dispensing survey packet as part of the process to evaluate the costs associated with dispensing prescription medication. All Vermont Medicaid pharmacy providers should complete the survey.

Your cooperation in providing the information for this survey process will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Nancy Hogue, Pharm.D.

Director of Pharmacy Services